

technology, and three others are investing in customer service programs.

The Child Support Protection Act would give States the authority to use earned performance incentives to fund this important work and continue the impressive results that are being achieved. This permanent reversal is critical so that those in State and local government can budget for 2011 and beyond. I urge my colleagues in the Senate to cosponsor this much needed legislation that is not only important to child support enforcement, but our children, their families, and the States.

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I rise with my colleagues, Senators ROCKEFELLER, CORNYN and SNOWE, in support of the Child Support Protection Act. Our bipartisan group has joined together in a fight for our states, counties and the people we serve every day. The legislation we are introducing today represents a renewed effort in that fight, as we work to restore cuts to the child support enforcement program.

This fight began in 2005 during Senate debate of the Deficit Reduction Act, or the DRA. That bill included cuts to the child support enforcement program—one of the most effective federal programs and one that directly benefits hardworking, single parent families. During consideration of the DRA, I joined 75 other Senators in support of a resolution rejecting child support funding cuts. But conferees ignored the Senate's record, including a provision to prevent states from receiving Federal matching funds on incentive payments.

Before passage of the Deficit Reduction Act, states with high-performing child support enforcement programs were eligible for additional funding. With the limitation included in the final bill, however, States like Wisconsin were suddenly penalized for their hard work and success. These states saw their child support dollars disappear—and were faced with tough budgeting decisions at both the state and county levels. Within a year, child support offices in my State were forced to lay off workers and many were left with no option but to scale back services.

Congress took a step towards fixing the problem as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Recovery bill temporarily restored the funding process that was in place before the Deficit Reduction Act, and allowed States—for fiscal years 2009 and 2010—to draw down much needed Federal matching funds. In Wisconsin, the need was so great that some offices used that funding to hire temporary staff—to clear case backlogs and assist the constituents who have been hurt by the funding cuts.

This is a short term solution—to a problem that Congress created. It is time to fix that problem. The economy has left families struggling, and child support is a lifeline for many of them. It is time to give States and counties the ability to budget beyond the com-

ing year. It is time to help the thousands of families who rely on child support payments to stay out of poverty and off public assistance. It is time for my colleagues to join me in supporting, and to pass, the Child Support Enforcement Act.

### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 320—DESIGNATING MAY 1 EACH YEAR AS “SILVER STAR BANNER DAY”

Mr. BOND (for himself and Mrs. MCCASKILL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 320

Whereas the Senate has always honored the sacrifices made by the wounded and ill members of the Armed Forces,

Whereas the Silver Star Service Banner has come to represent the members of the Armed Forces and veterans who were wounded or became ill in combat in the wars fought by the United States;

Whereas the Silver Star Families of America was formed to help the American people remember the sacrifices made by the wounded and ill members of the Armed Forces by designing and manufacturing Silver Star Service Banners and Flags for that purpose;

Whereas the sole mission of the Silver Star Families of America is to evoke memories of the sacrifices of members and veterans of the Armed Forces on behalf of the United States through the presence of a Silver Star Service Banner in a window or a Silver Star Flag flying; and

Whereas the sacrifices of members and veterans of the Armed Forces on behalf of the United States should never be forgotten: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation designating May 1 each year as “Silver Star Service Banner Day” and to call upon the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2698. Mr. FEINGOLD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3548, to amend the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to provide for the temporary availability of certain additional emergency unemployment compensation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2699. Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. DODD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3548, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2698. Mr. FEINGOLD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3548, to amend the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to provide for the temporary availability of certain additional emergency unemployment compensation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

#### SEC. \_\_\_\_ . ELIMINATION OF AUTOMATIC PAY ADJUSTMENTS FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 601(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 31) is repealed.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 601(a)(1) of such Act is amended—

(1) by striking “(a)(1)” and inserting “(a)”;

(2) by redesignating subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) as paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), respectively; and

(3) by striking “as adjusted by paragraph (2) of this subsection” and inserting “adjusted as provided by law”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on December 31, 2010.

SA 2699. Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. DODD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3548, to amend the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to provide for the temporary availability of certain additional emergency unemployment compensation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, insert the following:

#### SEC. \_\_\_\_ . CREDIT FOR CERTAIN HOME PURCHASES.

(a) ELIMINATION OF FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER REQUIREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 36 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “who is a first-time homebuyer of a principal residence” and inserting “who purchases a principal residence”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Subsection (c) of section 36 of such Code is amended by striking paragraph (1) and by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (5) as paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4), respectively.

(B) Section 36 of such Code is amended by striking “FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER CREDIT” in the heading and inserting “HOME PURCHASE CREDIT”.

(C) The table of sections for subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by striking the item relating to section 36 and inserting the following new item:

“Sec. 36. Home purchase credit.”.

(D) Subparagraph (W) of section 26(b)(2) of such Code is amended by striking “homebuyer credit” and inserting “home purchase credit”.

(b) EXPANSION OF APPLICATION PERIOD.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (h) of section 36 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “December 1, 2009” and inserting “July 1, 2010”.

(2) WAIVER OF RECAPTURE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (D) of section 36(f) of such Code is amended by striking “December 1, 2009” and inserting “July 1, 2010”.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading of such subparagraph (D) is amended by inserting “AND 2010” after “2009”.

(3) ELECTION TO TREAT PURCHASE IN PRIOR YEAR.—Subsection (g) of section 36 of such Code is amended—

(A) by striking “December 1, 2009” and inserting “January 1, 2010”, and

(B) by adding at the end the following: “In the case of a purchase of a principal residence after December 31, 2009, and before July 1, 2010, a taxpayer may elect to treat such purchase as made on December 31, 2009, for purposes of this section (other than subsections (c) and (f)(4)(D)).”.